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American Petroleum Institute
1220 L Street, Northwest
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# Monthly Completion Report

**STATISTICS DEPARTMENT**
**Special Projects Section**
**(202) 682-8492/682-8518**

**Report Month:** NOVEMBER 1987

## REPORT ON WELL COMPLETIONS IN THE UNITED STATES[1]

Wells actually completed in the current month may not be reported until several months later. The chart shown below illustrates the cumulative number of well completions for the current month and each of the eleven prior months, as now reported to the API. For comparison purposes, a corresponding curve describes the data, as then reported to the API, for the same twelve-month period a year ago.

These data are preliminary and subject to revision. The number of wells shown in the chart excludes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. The geographic distribution for wells and footage is not published on a monthly basis, but is available from the API's "Quarterly Completion Report."

Cumulative Number of Wells Reported as Completed
For Each of the Past 12 Months

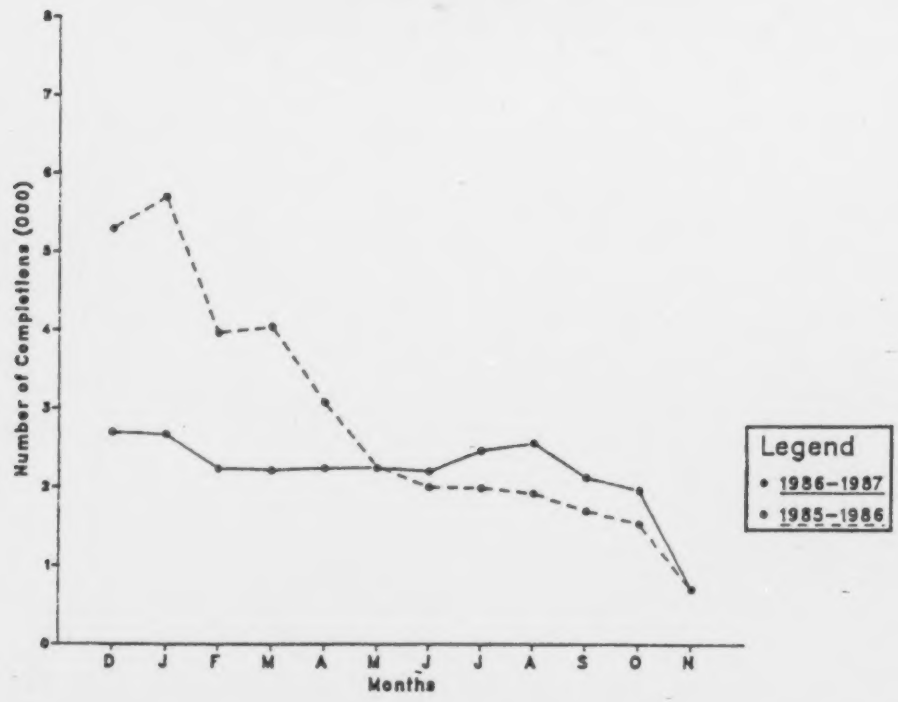

TABLE I: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF TOTAL WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF NOVEMBER 27, 1987[1]

| | OIL WELLS[2] | | GAS WELLS[3] | | DRY HOLES | | TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES | | TOTAL ALL WELLS[4] | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE |
| TOTAL 1987 | 10,929 | 45,992,315 | 4,404 | 25,267,076 | 8,184 | 41,307,933 | 23,517 | 112,567,324 | 23,888 | 113,905,418 |
| 1987: NOV | 252 | 909,284 | 55 | 324,052 | 399 | 2,123,255 | 706 | 3,356,591 | 709 | 3,363,197 |
| OCT | 868 | 3,691,552 | 287 | 1,720,152 | 799 | 3,992,926 | 1,954 | 9,404,630 | 1,976 | 9,505,364 |
| SEP | 1,024 | 4,527,375 | 278 | 1,702,573 | 812 | 4,148,310 | 2,114 | 10,378,258 | 2,147 | 10,499,059 |
| AUG | 1,274 | 5,018,099 | 434 | 2,377,457 | 839 | 4,295,649 | 2,547 | 11,691,205 | 2,591 | 11,844,638 |
| JUL | 1,163 | 4,566,561 | 434 | 2,702,537 | 852 | 4,115,551 | 2,449 | 11,384,649 | 2,494 | 11,548,882 |
| JUN | 1,042 | 4,354,597 | 389 | 2,350,674 | 761 | 3,856,617 | 2,192 | 10,561,888 | 2,231 | 10,695,678 |
| MAY | 1,093 | 4,671,944 | 410 | 2,394,625 | 732 | 3,778,201 | 2,235 | 10,844,770 | 2,289 | 11,081,449 |
| APR | 1,011 | 4,476,858 | 446 | 2,565,104 | 774 | 3,673,975 | 2,231 | 10,715,937 | 2,249 | 10,787,237 |
| MAR | 972 | 4,334,088 | 518 | 2,831,249 | 713 | 3,637,030 | 2,203 | 10,802,367 | 2,234 | 10,910,716 |
| FEB | 1,022 | 4,390,951 | 534 | 2,957,251 | 667 | 3,252,693 | 2,223 | 10,600,895 | 2,260 | 10,728,487 |
| JAN | 1,208 | 5,051,006 | 619 | 3,341,402 | 836 | 4,433,726 | 2,663 | 12,826,134 | 2,708 | 12,940,711 |
| TOTAL 1986 | 17,709 | 72,290,565 | 7,477 | 40,530,414 | 11,792 | 58,342,573 | 36,978 | 171,163,552 | 37,613 | 173,315,427 |
| 1986: DEC | 1,106 | 4,592,890 | 647 | 3,455,727 | 937 | 4,759,436 | 2,690 | 12,808,053 | 2,752 | 12,994,149 |
| NOV | 1,094 | 4,097,568 | 537 | 2,922,898 | 837 | 4,121,844 | 2,468 | 11,142,310 | 2,502 | 11,263,803 |
| OCT | 1,071 | 4,087,014 | 614 | 3,196,599 | 810 | 3,977,290 | 2,495 | 11,260,903 | 2,544 | 11,425,776 |
| SEP | 980 | 3,800,034 | 550 | 2,767,543 | 744 | 3,728,401 | 2,274 | 10,295,978 | 2,299 | 10,380,869 |
| AUG | 931 | 3,869,564 | 546 | 2,702,920 | 854 | 3,847,644 | 2,331 | 10,420,128 | 2,371 | 10,544,763 |
| JUL | 954 | 4,157,709 | 555 | 2,703,300 | 819 | 3,922,379 | 2,328 | 10,783,388 | 2,377 | 10,940,347 |
| JUN | 951 | 3,998,261 | 497 | 2,696,944 | 768 | 3,594,038 | 2,216 | 10,289,243 | 2,251 | 10,407,349 |
| MAY | 1,136 | 5,030,758 | 480 | 2,687,011 | 867 | 4,337,965 | 2,483 | 12,055,734 | 2,556 | 12,342,723 |
| APR | 1,665 | 7,366,107 | 638 | 3,817,420 | 1,007 | 4,870,312 | 3,310 | 16,053,839 | 3,369 | 16,268,162 |
| MAR | 2,265 | 9,533,716 | 706 | 4,174,752 | 1,266 | 6,238,624 | 4,237 | 19,947,092 | 4,292 | 20,115,011 |
| FEB | 2,300 | 9,741,023 | 695 | 4,080,402 | 1,162 | 6,293,008 | 4,157 | 20,114,433 | 4,224 | 20,361,517 |
| JAN | 3,256 | 12,015,921 | 1,012 | 5,324,898 | 1,721 | 8,651,632 | 5,989 | 25,992,451 | 6,076 | 26,270,958 |
| TOTAL 1985 | 35,746 | 140,655,217 | 12,582 | 69,462,793 | 20,919 | 102,142,694 | 69,247 | 312,260,704 | 70,927 | 317,464,799 |
| 1985: DEC | 2,798 | 11,249,342 | 923 | 5,177,502 | 1,798 | 9,088,371 | 5,519 | 25,515,215 | 5,631 | 25,867,818 |
| NOV | 2,568 | 10,151,870 | 884 | 5,048,020 | 1,532 | 7,510,357 | 4,984 | 22,710,247 | 5,065 | 23,007,185 |
| OCT | 2,993 | 11,686,976 | 1,192 | 6,097,347 | 1,763 | 8,388,248 | 5,948 | 26,172,571 | 6,046 | 26,500,005 |
| SEP | 2,825 | 10,634,835 | 1,073 | 5,578,781 | 1,708 | 8,220,921 | 5,606 | 24,434,537 | 5,704 | 24,695,127 |
| AUG | 3,299 | 12,419,159 | 1,111 | 5,962,432 | 1,907 | 8,880,069 | 6,317 | 27,261,660 | 6,419 | 27,558,568 |
| JUL | 3,089 | 11,316,199 | 1,087 | 5,939,272 | 1,827 | 8,415,069 | 6,003 | 25,670,540 | 6,165 | 26,136,056 |
| JUN | 2,965 | 11,325,888 | 1,016 | 5,442,492 | 1,665 | 7,700,384 | 5,646 | 24,468,764 | 5,792 | 24,930,315 |
| MAY | 2,872 | 11,743,475 | 913 | 5,095,565 | 1,665 | 8,214,282 | 5,450 | 25,053,322 | 5,647 | 25,652,897 |
| APR | 2,967 | 11,944,785 | 997 | 5,819,992 | 1,737 | 8,536,434 | 5,701 | 26,301,211 | 5,855 | 26,732,457 |
| MAR | 3,253 | 13,212,300 | 1,097 | 6,293,625 | 1,829 | 8,941,215 | 6,179 | 28,447,140 | 6,390 | 29,006,761 |
| FEB | 2,823 | 11,707,750 | 1,085 | 6,199,841 | 1,514 | 7,909,125 | 5,422 | 25,816,716 | 5,560 | 26,270,520 |
| JAN | 3,294 | 13,262,638 | 1,204 | 6,807,924 | 1,974 | 10,338,219 | 6,472 | 30,408,781 | 6,653 | 31,107,090 |
| TOTAL 1984 | 43,808 | 166,593,651 | 14,817 | 81,223,062 | 25,116 | 118,432,630 | 83,741 | 366,249,343 | 85,968 | 372,047,405 |
| TOTAL 1983 | 38,271 | 140,878,390 | 12,723 | 69,884,106 | 23,759 | 103,560,930 | 74,753 | 314,323,426 | 76,786 | 319,096,748 |

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE II: CUMULATIVE NUMBER OF EXPLORATORY WELLS AND FOOTAGE DRILLED IN THE UNITED STATES BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR, AS OF NOVEMBER 27, 1987[1]

| | OIL WELLS[2] | | GAS WELLS[3] | | DRY HOLES | | TOTAL OIL & GAS & DRY HOLES | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE |
| TOTAL 1987 | 649 | 3,946,942 | 483 | 3,288,836 | 3,907 | 21,049,250 | 5,039 | 28,285,028 |
| 1987: NOV | 16 | 96,859 | 9 | 52,570 | 202 | 1,165,561 | 227 | 1,314,990 |
| OCT | 53 | 301,869 | 27 | 188,758 | 385 | 2,030,285 | 465 | 2,520,912 |
| SEP | 57 | 384,909 | 28 | 196,705 | 404 | 2,142,846 | 489 | 2,724,460 |
| AUG | 57 | 351,455 | 52 | 327,641 | 398 | 2,153,434 | 507 | 2,832,530 |
| JUL | 67 | 343,065 | 42 | 279,901 | 384 | 2,034,089 | 493 | 2,657,055 |
| JUN | 67 | 416,188 | 47 | 371,639 | 341 | 1,854,134 | 455 | 2,641,961 |
| MAY | 68 | 388,827 | 52 | 382,087 | 348 | 1,910,655 | 468 | 2,681,569 |
| APR | 62 | 398,766 | 51 | 281,023 | 344 | 1,734,980 | 457 | 2,414,769 |
| MAR | 58 | 410,125 | 50 | 325,762 | 354 | 1,876,613 | 462 | 2,612,500 |
| FEB | 56 | 351,762 | 55 | 385,497 | 316 | 1,601,914 | 427 | 2,339,173 |
| JAN | 88 | 503,117 | 70 | 497,253 | 431 | 2,544,739 | 589 | 3,545,109 |
| TOTAL 1986 | 965 | 5,833,500 | 728 | 4,948,803 | 5,237 | 29,243,136 | 6,930 | 40,025,439 |
| 1986: DEC | 73 | 474,191 | 47 | 326,039 | 473 | 2,637,642 | 593 | 3,437,872 |
| NOV | 56 | 312,504 | 56 | 374,769 | 410 | 2,118,465 | 522 | 2,805,738 |
| OCT | 49 | 299,467 | 45 | 316,553 | 363 | 1,962,203 | 457 | 2,578,223 |
| SEP | 43 | 190,997 | 63 | 356,005 | 316 | 1,741,203 | 422 | 2,288,205 |
| AUG | 48 | 253,581 | 58 | 350,905 | 373 | 1,938,017 | 479 | 2,542,503 |
| JUL | 72 | 399,381 | 59 | 341,400 | 353 | 1,831,202 | 484 | 2,571,983 |
| JUN | 54 | 307,022 | 49 | 317,877 | 313 | 1,719,172 | 416 | 2,344,071 |
| MAY | 73 | 421,938 | 42 | 344,729 | 415 | 2,326,959 | 530 | 3,093,626 |
| APR | 93 | 649,961 | 64 | 517,790 | 444 | 2,460,834 | 601 | 3,628,585 |
| MAR | 112 | 753,438 | 65 | 529,566 | 540 | 3,106,804 | 717 | 4,389,808 |
| FEB | 113 | 729,854 | 73 | 529,741 | 496 | 3,140,225 | 682 | 4,399,820 |
| JAN | 179 | 1,041,166 | 107 | 643,429 | 741 | 4,260,410 | 1,027 | 5,945,005 |
| TOTAL 1985 | 1,713 | 10,043,411 | 1,269 | 8,585,110 | 9,029 | 49,133,952 | 12,011 | 67,762,473 |
| 1985: DEC | 146 | 862,999 | 87 | 601,883 | 847 | 4,741,093 | 1,080 | 6,205,975 |
| NOV | 106 | 619,559 | 89 | 676,036 | 683 | 3,716,305 | 878 | 5,011,900 |
| OCT | 142 | 797,510 | 86 | 513,320 | 777 | 4,041,650 | 1,005 | 5,352,480 |
| SEP | 114 | 623,773 | 78 | 536,339 | 741 | 3,951,891 | 933 | 5,112,003 |
| AUG | 165 | 985,120 | 100 | 665,218 | 806 | 4,159,253 | 1,071 | 5,809,591 |
| JUL | 131 | 757,111 | 94 | 593,460 | 765 | 3,904,517 | 990 | 5,255,088 |
| JUN | 126 | 666,047 | 118 | 843,469 | 700 | 3,457,717 | 944 | 4,967,233 |
| MAY | 152 | 898,719 | 124 | 782,877 | 685 | 3,808,831 | 961 | 5,490,427 |
| APR | 127 | 710,850 | 116 | 805,196 | 719 | 4,026,980 | 962 | 5,543,026 |
| MAR | 175 | 1,067,616 | 111 | 720,714 | 745 | 4,145,376 | 1,031 | 5,933,706 |
| FEB | 161 | 1,016,343 | 120 | 842,658 | 690 | 4,096,747 | 971 | 5,955,748 |
| JAN | 168 | 1,037,764 | 146 | 1,003,940 | 871 | 5,083,592 | 1,185 | 7,125,296 |
| TOTAL 1984 | 2,309 | 12,521,928 | 1,576 | 9,937,920 | 11,117 | 58,436,192 | 15,002 | 80,896,040 |
| TOTAL 1983 | 2,144 | 10,672,729 | 1,625 | 10,151,706 | 10,124 | 48,497,597 | 13,893 | 69,322,032 |

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE III: TOTAL NUMBER OF WELLS AND FOOTAGE ADDITIONS[1] BY COMPLETION MONTH AND YEAR REPORTED TO THE API DURING NOVEMBER 1987

| | OIL WELLS[2] | | GAS WELLS[3] | | DRY HOLES | | TOTAL OIL & GAS AND DRY HOLES | | TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[4] CURRENT MONTH | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE | WELLS | FOOTAGE |
| TOTAL 1987 | 1,150 | 4,616,117 | 493 | 2,576,510 | 797 | 3,909,630 | 2,440 | 11,102,257 | 2,489 | 11,289,395 |
| 1987: NOV | 252 | 909,284 | 55 | 324,052 | 399 | 2,123,255 | 706 | 3,356,591 | 709 | 3,363,197 |
| OCT | 455 | 2,198,066 | 197 | 1,192,306 | 247 | 1,179,516 | 899 | 4,569,888 | 914 | 4,645,944 |
| SEP | 171 | 717,723 | 57 | 312,018 | 52 | 259,452 | 280 | 1,289,193 | 284 | 1,304,348 |
| AUG | 104 | 332,139 | 41 | 165,502 | 34 | 123,234 | 179 | 620,875 | 187 | 647,906 |
| JUL | 59 | 189,738 | 36 | 160,341 | 20 | 111,939 | 115 | 462,018 | 122 | 493,316 |
| JUN | 33 | 83,680 | 31 | 152,864 | 7 | 33,569 | 71 | 270,113 | 75 | 287,945 |
| MAY | 26 | 64,031 | 12 | 29,191 | 17 | 31,891 | 55 | 125,113 | 59 | 137,108 |
| APR | 22 | 44,778 | 20 | 60,892 | 5 | 9,479 | 47 | 115,149 | 47 | 115,149 |
| MAR | 12 | 19,624 | 19 | 83,838 | 2 | 9,200 | 33 | 112,662 | 33 | 112,662 |
| FEB | 5 | 14,578 | 13 | 57,489 | 8 | 15,564 | 26 | 87,631 | 26 | 87,631 |
| JAN | 11 | 42,476 | 12 | 38,017 | 6 | 12,531 | 29 | 93,024 | 33 | 94,189 |
| TOTAL 1986 | 35 | 88,225 | 46 | 158,369 | 19 | 66,160 | 100 | 312,754 | 105 | 319,177 |
| 1986: DEC | 2 | 1,855 | 10 | 25,364 | 1 | 1,900 | 13 | 29,119 | 13 | 29,119 |
| NOV | 3 | 10,257 | 4 | 20,584 | 1 | 1,415 | 8 | 32,256 | 8 | 32,256 |
| OCT | 5 | 11,560 | 5 | 12,420 | 3 | 9,840 | 13 | 33,820 | 13 | 33,820 |
| SEP | 2 | 2,963 | 6 | 15,615 | 2 | 3,236 | 10 | 21,814 | 10 | 21,814 |
| AUG | 1 | 600 | 4 | 8,137 | 2 | 3,670 | 7 | 12,407 | 7 | 12,407 |
| JUL | 3 | 8,365 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 8,365 | 3 | 8,365 |
| JUN | 3 | 6,117 | 2 | 32,600 | 2 | 9,460 | 7 | 48,177 | 8 | 49,021 |
| MAY | 7 | 29,715 | 2 | 3,165 | 2 | 2,976 | 11 | 35,856 | 11 | 35,856 |
| APR | 2 | 3,347 | 4 | 12,923 | 3 | 24,497 | 9 | 40,767 | 9 | 40,767 |
| MAR | 1 | 740 | 2 | 1,919 | 1 | 470 | 4 | 3,129 | 4 | 3,129 |
| FEB | 1 | 3,425 | 2 | 15,075 | 1 | 6,074 | 4 | 24,574 | 8 | 30,153 |
| JAN | 5 | 9,281 | 5 | 10,567 | 1 | 2,622 | 11 | 22,470 | 11 | 22,470 |
| TOTAL 1985 | 45 | 118,778 | 18 | 57,130 | 19 | 74,414 | 82 | 250,322 | 83 | 252,774 |
| 1985: DEC | 3 | 2,982 | 6 | 9,519 | 3 | 15,800 | 12 | 28,301 | 13 | 30,753 |
| NOV | 4 | 11,372 | 1 | 877 | 2 | 1,683 | 7 | 13,932 | 7 | 13,932 |
| OCT | 3 | 19,355 | 1 | 9,800 | 4 | 9,766 | 8 | 38,921 | 8 | 38,921 |
| SEP | 4 | 3,005 | 1 | 2,287 | 3 | 13,430 | 8 | 18,722 | 8 | 18,722 |
| AUG | 5 | 8,633 | 2 | 3,172 | 1 | 6,675 | 8 | 18,480 | 8 | 18,480 |
| JUL | 5 | 30,041 | 1 | 17,900 | 0 | 0 | 6 | 47,941 | 6 | 47,941 |
| JUN | 6 | 20,804 | 2 | 4,025 | 2 | 7,124 | 10 | 31,953 | 10 | 31,953 |
| MAY | 3 | 2,916 | 3 | 8,726 | 1 | 7,425 | 7 | 19,067 | 7 | 19,067 |
| APR | 1 | 1,572 | 1 | 824 | 1 | 9,032 | 3 | 11,428 | 3 | 11,428 |
| MAR | 7 | 11,859 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 2,981 | 8 | 14,840 | 8 | 14,840 |
| FEB | 3 | 5,339 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 3 | 5,339 | 3 | 5,339 |
| JAN | 1 | 900 | 0 | 0 | 1 | 498 | 2 | 1,398 | 2 | 1,398 |
| TOTAL 1984 | 30 | 83,739 | 9 | 38,246 | 5 | 19,153 | 44 | 141,138 | 47 | 143,259 |
| YRS PRIOR TO 1984 | 22 | 58,903 | 4 | 47,652 | 11 | 25,676 | 37 | 132,231 | 37 | 132,231 |
| TOTAL WELLS REPORTED[5] | 1,282 | 4,965,762 | 570 | 2,877,907 | 851 | 4,095,033 | 2,703 | 11,938,702 | 2,761 | 12,136,836 |

See footnotes on page 5.

TABLE I AND TABLE II:

1. The cumulative number of wells reported in this table is the total number of wells included in the API database for each of the months and years shown, as of November 27, 1987. These data are preliminary and subject to further revisions.

2. Includes multiple completion wells which produce oil from at least one zone, but may produce gas from one or more zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well.

3. Includes multiple completion wells which produce gas from all zones. A multiple completion well is counted as one well. Gas wells also include so-called condensate wells.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells. (Not applicable to Table II.)

TABLE III:

1. Total number of wells received by the API during the report month and classified by completion month and year. These wells are included in Tables I and II.

2. See footnote (2) above.

3. See footnote (3) above.

4. Includes stratigraphic and core tests and service wells.

5. Total wells reported are those received by the API for the report period October 31, 1987 through November 27, 1987. The sub-totals shown for each yearly period may not add up to the total wells reported for the period. Some wells, received during the report period, may have been completed in years prior to those shown in Table III.